

ABSTRACT

A read servo mechanism that uses levels of read data signal quality to maintain track centerline is presented. In a seek operation mode, a baseline signal quality value is sampled at a current tracking position and, once the baseline signal quality value is established, the head is stepped to change its position and the signal quality value sampled after each position change to determine change in signal quality until the change in signal quality is found to be insignificant. After a predetermined interval, the signal quality value is again sampled. If the signal quality value has changed significantly or the time that has expired since the seek operation mode ended is greater than some larger interval, the seek operation is repeated in an effort to search for a new baseline level of signal quality (and, therefore, the new track center).

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